

[illegible]

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-- the presence of a loop or, respectively, the possibility of the presence of a loop over a departing linkset to a destination signalling point (SP X) is checked by a routing test (MRVT) and/or by a real-time method,

-- given a positive check result, signalling messages are automatically prevented from continuing to be sent to the destination signalling point (SP X) via the appertaining linkset.

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- given said positive check result, test messages are first sent via a linkset to destinations that can be reached via said linkset;
- in the case of returning test messages, signalling messages are then automatically prevented from being sent to a destination that had returning test messages.

3. method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that signalling messages are prevented (downstream) from being sent to the appertaining destination via the appertaining linkset in that the specific, departing linkset to this destination is blocked in the routing table of the signalling transfer point.

4. Method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that signalling messages are prevented (upstream) from being sent to the appertaining destination via the appertaining linkset in that the signalling transfer point (STP A) sends a transfer prohibited message regarding the destination signalling point (SP X) to the preceding signalling transfer point (STP B), whereupon the preceding signalling transfer point (STP B) will reroute or, respectively, stop the traffic to the destination signalling point (SP X).

5. Method according to one of the claims 1 through 4, characterized in that said interruption of the loop is controlled by the operations maintenance and administration part (OMAP).

6. Method according to one of the claims 1 through 5, characterized in that said interruption of the loop is controlled by the message transfer part (MTO).

7. Method according to one of the claims 1 through 6, characterized in that, after blocking the linkset contained in the loop, the new, current route is in turn immediately checked for freedom from loops in the signalling transfer point (STP A).

8. Signalling system of a signalling transfer point that routes signalling messages to destination signalling points, characterized in that

-- it checks the presence of a loop or, respectively, the possibility of the presence of a loop over a departing linkset to a destination signalling point (SP X) by a routing test (MRVT) and/or by a real-time method, whereby
-- when a positive check result is obtained, signalling messages are automatically prevented from continuing to be sent to the destination signalling point via the appertaining linkset.

9. Signalling system of a signalling transfer point according to claim 8, characterized in that it verifies the detected possibility of the presence of a loop by sending test messages to destinations reachable via said linkset before it automatically prevents signalling messages from continuing to be sent via the appertaining linkset to a destination for which said test messages return.

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